

aid. Intensive farming, as it is called, will certainly augment the value of our farm products. For no man, is a technical and liberal education more necessary, than for the farmer. The German people fully appreciate this fact. There are 10,000 pupils in the schools of agriculture in Prussia.

LIBRARIES.

A word hurriedly, Mr. Chairman, as to some phases of education in which you will have noticed that I have taken a special interest, and as to which I know I have your kind and hearty co-operation. How true is it, after all, that our boys and girls very often learn more by their own observation and reading than the school-master can do for them. Therefore I am interested in the library movement. How much would be gained if the home and the school would work in concert. With good and cheap books and periodicals so easily within our reach the life of the average citizen with proper surroundings could be made a continuation of school life. The story of a life may turn on the inspiring influence of a single book. One of President Lincoln's biographers, in speaking of him, says: "His great career hinged upon the fact that his mother had six books. In that circumstance he differed from the other boys of the region. Is it too much to say that but for that ray of light his great soul would have been strangled in the birth?"

You all know what we have sought to accomplish through our system of Travelling Libraries. These are intended for our new districts, in which, as yet, there are no Public Libraries of any description. The Legislature was unanimous in heartily supporting me in this and similar progressive movements. These libraries are very popular in several of the United States. Thirteen of them have been in circulation, in Northern Ontario during the year. Our short experience, in sending out these libraries, is very satisfactory. You have noticed that in different parts of the United States a system of Travelling Art Galleries has been inaugurated.

This last Session, the House gave me an appropriation for Libraries for rural school sections for every part of the Province. I hope to have regulations framed, within a week or two, so that advantage may be taken of the grant immediately after the summer vacation. We will follow the principle which governs our entire system, viz., that of aiding and supplementing local effort. We will commence by offering a small grant to any section which will supplement it by a sum twice as large, the amount to be spent in